

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 USIA-12 L-03 /026 R

DRAFTED BY CU/AF:JOWESTMORELAND:DRG

APPROVED BY CU/AF:JOWESTMORELAND

AF/S:RDOLS (SUBSTANCE)

L/AF:BHUFFMAN

L/HR:CRUNYON

USIA/IAA:MGIUFFRIDA

----- 078770

P R 192052Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SF

SUBJECT: VISIT BY D.C. BAR ASSOCIATION GROUP

1. DEPT. HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY LAWYERS' COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS ABOUT POSSIBLE CU FUNDING ASSISTANCE IN RELATION TO A GROUP TRIP FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONALS BEING ARRANGED BY D.C. BAR ASSOCIATION. PLANS STILL QUITE TENTATIVE, BUT BAR ASSN. HOPES TO PUT TOGETHER A GROUP ELIGIBLE FOR AFFINITY GROUP AIR FARE FOR TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA AND KENYA FROM OCT. 30 - NOV. 15. BAR ASSN. HAS BEEN IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH BAR ASSOCIATIONS IN JOHANNESBURG AND NAIROBI CONCERNING LOCAL PROGRAMS, HOSPITALITY AND HOME STAYS. CURRENT PLANNING CALLS FOR ARRIVAL IN JOBURG NOV. 1 WITH PROGRAM INVOLVING ADDRESSES AND PANEL MEETINGS ON BASIC THEME OF ACCESS TO LEGAL SYSTEM WITH LAWYERS, JUDGES, LAW PROFESSORS, ETC. NOV. 2-4. GROUP WOULD FLY TO NAIROBI ON NOV. 5 FOR ABOUT 2 DAYS OF SIMILAR

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MEETINGS ARRANGED BY NAIROBI BAR ASSN. REMAINING TIME

WOULD PROBABLY BE DEVOTED TO SIGHTSEEING AND INDIVIDUAL INTERESTS.

2. BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST THUS FAR, GROUP WOULD BE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY WHITE. LAWYERS' COMMITTEE HAS SUGGESTED GROUP COULD POSSIBLY BE MADE MORE REPRESENTATIVE OF U.S. LEGAL COMMUNITY BY INCLUSION OF FOUR PROMINENT BLACKS WITH PARTIAL CU FUNDING. THOSE SUGGESTED TO US INCLUDE A FEDERAL JUDGE IN NEW YORK STATE, A LAW SCHOOL DEAN, A TRIAL LAWYER IN D.C., AND A PRACTICING ATTORNEY WHO IS THE PAST CHAIRMAN OF EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION.

3. IN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE WITH ROD BOGGS OF LAWYERS' COMMITTEE, CU/AF EMPHASIZED THAT OUR POSTS MIGHT WANT TO SUPPLEMENT LOCAL BAR ASSN. PROGRAMS WITH USIS PROGRAMMING. IF ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE INTERESTED AND COULD PROGRAM, WE HAVE IN MIND PROPOSAL THAT FOUR INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED REMAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR THREE ADDITIONAL DAYS OF USIS PROGRAMMING, JOINING GROUP IN NAIROBI ON NOV. 8 (WHICH WOULD PROBABLY MEAN MISSING BAR ASSN. PROGRAM IN NAIROBI) WITH POSSIBLE USIS PROGRAMMING ON NOV. 11-12 AND REMAINDER OF TIME FOR SIGHT-SEEING. KENTRIDGES IN JOBURG SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH BAR ASSN. PROGRAM BEING LAID ON.

4. IF POSTS CONCUR, OUR ASSISTANCE WOULD PROBABLY BE LIMITED TO DOLS 5,000 REGIONALLY-FUNDED GRANT-IN-AID TO D.C. BAR ASSN. TO COVER INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL (AND POSSIBLY IN-COUNTRY TRAVEL IN SOUTH AFRICA) FOR FOUR INDIVIDUALS. REGRET SHORT NOTICE, BUT NEED POSTS' RESPONSES AND SUGGESTIONS BY SEPT. 23 TO MEET AFFINITY GROUP DEADLINE. BOTH AF/S AND L/AF ENDORSE THIS PROJECT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE206713
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JOWESTMORELAND:DRG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740263-0631
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740931/aaaaazqm.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT BY D.C. BAR ASSOCIATION GROUP
TAGS: OEXC, SF
To: NAIROBI PRETORIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005